

States and its stewardship of the marine environment.

It was the foresight of the third President, Thomas Jefferson, that started us down this path of surveying our coastal areas for the benefit of the Nation and laid the blueprint for what we now all know as the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

My district is home to several outstanding NOAA facilities including the Hollings Marine Laboratory and the Coastal Services Center, both of which are located in Charleston. These facilities and their work are an important part of the coastal South Carolina community.

NOAA has shown its dedication to our Nation's ocean and coastal resources. NOAA's management and conservation actions have allowed all of us to continue to enjoy our Nation's oceans and coastal resources.

I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on this important resolution, and I congratulate NOAA for their 200 years. Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 147.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

AMERICA'S HISTORICAL AND NATURAL LEGACY STUDY ACT

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3998) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct special resources studies of certain lands and structures to determine the appropriate means for preservation, use, and management of the resources associated with such lands and structures, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3998

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as "America's Historical and Natural Legacy Study Act".

SEC. 2. SECRETARY.

For the purposes of this Act, the term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior.

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TITLE I—HARRY S TRUMAN BIRTHPLACE STUDY ACT

SEC. 101. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the "Harry S Truman Birthplace Study Act".

SEC. 102. SPECIAL RESOURCE STUDY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall complete a special resource study of the Harry S Truman Birthplace State Historic Site in Lamar, Missouri to determine—

(1) the suitability and feasibility of adding the birthplace site to the Harry S Truman National Historic Site or designating the site as a separate unit of the National Park System; and

(2) the methods and means for the protection and interpretation of the Harry S Truman Birthplace State Historic Site by the National Park Service, other Federal, State, or local government entities or private or non-profit organizations.

(b) STUDY REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary shall conduct the study in accordance with section 8(c) of Public Law 91-383 (16 U.S.C. 1a-5).

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 3 years after the date on which funds are made available to carry out this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report containing—

(1) the results of the study; and

(2) any recommendations of the Secretary.

TITLE II—LEWIS AND CLARK NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL EXTENSION STUDY ACT

SEC. 201. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the "Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Extension Study Act".

SEC. 202. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

(1) EASTERN LEGACY SITES.—The term "Eastern Legacy sites" means the sites associated with the preparation or return phases of the Lewis and Clark expedition, commonly known as the "Eastern Legacy", including sites in Virginia, the District of Columbia, Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, Indiana, Missouri, and Illinois. This includes the routes followed by Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, whether independently or together.

(2) TRAIL.—The term "Trail" means the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail designated by section 5(a)(6) of the National Trails System Act (16 U.S.C. 1244(a)(6)).

SEC. 203. SPECIAL RESOURCE STUDY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall complete a special resource study of the Eastern Legacy sites to determine—

(1) the suitability and feasibility of adding these sites to the Trail; and

(2) the methods and means for the protection and interpretation of these sites by the National Park Service, other Federal, State, or local government entities or private or non-profit organizations.

(b) STUDY REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary shall conduct the study in accordance with section 5(b) of the National Trails System Act (16 U.S.C. 1244(b)).

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 3 years after the date on which funds are made available to carry out this title, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report containing—

(1) the results of the study; and

(2) any recommendations of the Secretary.

TITLE III—BATTLE OF MATEWAN STUDY ACT

SEC. 301. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the "Battle of Matewan Study Act".

SEC. 302. SPECIAL RESOURCE STUDY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall complete a special resource study of the sites and resources at Matewan, West Virginia, associated with the Battle of Matewan (also known as the Matewan Massacre) of May 19, 1920 to determine—

(1) the suitability and feasibility of designating certain historic areas of Matewan, West Virginia as a unit of the National Park System; and

(2) the methods and means for the protection and interpretation of these sites by the National Park Service, other Federal, State, or local government entities or private or non-profit organizations.

(b) STUDY REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary shall conduct the study in accordance with section 8(c) of Public Law 91-383 (16 U.S.C. 1a-5).

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 3 years after the date on which funds are made available to carry out this title, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report containing—

(1) the results of the study; and

(2) any recommendations of the Secretary.

TITLE IV—BATTLE OF CAMDEN STUDY ACT

SEC. 401. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the "Battle of Camden Study Act".

SEC. 402. SPECIAL RESOURCE STUDY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall complete a special resource study of the site of the Battle of Camden fought in South Carolina on August 16, 1780, and the site of Historic Camden, which is currently a National Park System Affiliated Area, to determine—

(1) the suitability and feasibility of designating these sites as a unit or units of the National Park System; and

(2) the methods and means for the protection and interpretation of these sites by the National Park Service, other Federal, State, or local government entities or private or non-profit organizations.

(b) **STUDY REQUIREMENTS.**—The Secretary shall conduct the study in accordance with section 8(c) of Public Law 91-383 (16 U.S.C. 1a-5).

(c) **REPORT.**—Not later than 3 years after the date on which funds are made available to carry out this title, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report containing—

- (1) the results of the study; and
- (2) any recommendations of the Secretary.

TITLE V—MISSISSIPPI RIVER STUDY ACT

SEC. 501. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the “Mississippi River Study Act”.

SEC. 502. SPECIAL RESOURCE STUDY.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall complete a special resource study along the route of the Mississippi River in the counties contiguous to the river from its headwaters in the State of Minnesota to the Gulf of Mexico to evaluate—

(1) a range of alternatives for protecting and interpreting the resources along the route of the Mississippi River, including alternatives for potential addition of all or portions of the route to the National Trails System; and

(2) the methods and means for the protection and interpretation of the route by the National Park Service, other Federal, State, or local government entities or private or non-profit organizations.

(b) **STUDY REQUIREMENTS.**—The Secretary shall conduct the study in accordance with section 8 (c) of Public Law 91-383 (16 U.S.C. 1a-5) or section 5(b) of the National Trails System Act (16 U.S.C. 1244(b)) as appropriate.

(c) **REPORT.**—Not later than 3 years after the date on which funds are made available to carry out this title, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report containing—

- (1) the results of the study; and
- (2) any recommendations of the Secretary.

TITLE VI—FORT SAN GERÓNIMO STUDY ACT

SEC. 601. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the “Fort San Gerónimo Study Act”.

SEC. 602. DEFINITIONS.

For the purposes of this title:

(1) **FORT SAN GERÓNIMO.**—The term “Fort San Gerónimo” (also known as “Fortín de San Gerónimo del Boquerón”) means the fort and grounds listed on the National Register of Historic Places and located near Old San Juan, Puerto Rico.

(2) **RELATED RESOURCES.**—The term “related resources” means other parts of the fortification system of old San Juan that are not currently included within the boundary of San Juan National Historic Site, such as sections of the City Wall or other fortifications.

SEC. 603. SPECIAL RESOURCE STUDY.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall complete a special resource study of Fort San Gerónimo and other related resources, to determine—

(1) the suitability and feasibility of including Fort San Gerónimo and other related resources in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico as part of San Juan National Historic Site; and

(2) the methods and means for the protection and interpretation of Fort San Gerónimo and other related resources by the National Park Service, other Federal, State, or local government entities or private or non-profit organizations.

(b) **STUDY REQUIREMENTS.**—The Secretary shall conduct the study in accordance with section 8(c) of Public Law 91-383 (16 U.S.C. 1a-5).

(c) **REPORT.**—Not later than 3 years after the date on which funds are made available to carry out this title, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report containing—

- (1) the results of the study; and
- (2) any recommendations of the Secretary.

TITLE VII—WOLF HOUSE STUDY ACT

SEC. 701. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the “Wolf House Study Act”.

SEC. 702. SPECIAL RESOURCE STUDY.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall complete a special resource study of the Wolf House located on Highway 5 in Norfork, Arkansas, to determine—

(1) the suitability and feasibility of designating the Wolf House as a unit of the National Park System; and

(2) the methods and means for the protection and interpretation of the Wolf House by the National Park Service, other Federal, State, or local government entities or private or non-profit organizations.

(b) **STUDY REQUIREMENTS.**—The Secretary shall conduct the study in accordance with section 8(c) of Public Law 91-383 (16 U.S.C. 1a-5).

(c) **REPORT.**—Not later than 3 years after the date on which funds are made available to carry out this title, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report containing—

- (1) the results of the study; and
- (2) any recommendations of the Secretary.

TITLE VIII—RIM OF THE VALLEY CORRIDOR STUDY ACT

SEC. 801. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the “Rim of the Valley Corridor Study Act”.

SEC. 802. SPECIAL RESOURCE STUDY.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall complete a special resource study of the area known as the Rim of the Valley Corridor, generally including the mountains encircling the San Fernando, La Crescenta, Santa Clarita, Simi, and Conejo Valleys in California, to determine—

(1) the suitability and feasibility of designating all or a portion of the corridor as a unit of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area; and

(2) the methods and means for the protection and interpretation of this corridor by the National Park Service, other Federal, State, or local government entities or private or non-profit organizations.

(b) **DOCUMENTATION.**—In conducting the study authorized under subsection (a), the Secretary shall document—

(1) the process used to develop the existing Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area Fire Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (September 2005); and

(2) all activity conducted pursuant to the plan referred to in paragraph (1) designed to protect lives and property from wildfire.

(c) **STUDY REQUIREMENTS.**—The Secretary shall conduct the study in accordance with section 8(c) of Public Law 91-383 (16 U.S.C. 1a-5).

(d) **REPORT.**—Not later than 3 years after the date on which funds are made available to carry out this title, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report containing—

- (1) the results of the study; and
- (2) any recommendations of the Secretary.

TITLE IX—BUTTERFIELD OVERLAND TRAIL STUDY ACT

SEC. 901. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the “Butterfield Overland Trail Study Act”.

SEC. 902. SPECIAL RESOURCE STUDY.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall complete a special resource study along the “Ox-Bow Route” of the Butterfield Overland Trail in the States of Missouri, Tennessee, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and California to evaluate—

(1) a range of alternatives for protecting and interpreting the resources of the trail area, including alternatives for potential addition of the trail area to the National Trails System; and

(2) the methods and means for the protection and interpretation of this trail by the National Park Service, other Federal, State, or local government entities or private or non-profit organizations.

(b) **STUDY REQUIREMENTS.**—The Secretary shall conduct the study in accordance with section 8(c) of Public Law 91-383 (16 U.S.C. 1a-5) or section 5(b) of the National Trails System Act (16 U.S.C. 1244(b)) as appropriate.

(c) **REPORT.**—Not later than 3 years after the date on which funds are made available to carry out this title, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report containing—

- (1) the results of the study; and
- (2) any recommendations of the Secretary.

TITLE X—HUNTING AND FISHING

SEC. 1001. HUNTING AND FISHING.

Each study authorized by this Act shall document the State and local laws governing hunting and fishing within the study area.

TITLE XI—SENSE OF CONGRESS

SEC. 1101. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that any subsequent legislation affecting the status of the areas subject to the special resources studies authorized under this Act shall be supported by the results of the relevant studies authorized by this Act.

The **SPEAKER** pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) and the gentlewoman from Washington (Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Guam.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The **SPEAKER** pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Guam?

There was no objection.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 3998 was introduced by our colleague from Arizona, the chairman of the National Parks, Forests and Public

Land Subcommittee, Representative RAÚL GRIJALVA.

This bill, America's Historical and National Legacy Study Act, would direct the Secretary of the Interior to study nine sites to determine the best way to preserve and interpret them, including an evaluation of whether they merit inclusion in the National Park System or the National Trails System.

Special resource studies are an important tool in preserving and interpreting the Nation's natural and cultural history. Even if a study concludes that involvement of the Federal Government is not recommended, these studies provide important information and options for the local, the State, or the private landowners charged with managing these resources.

Mr. Speaker, hearings have been held on eight of the measures included in this legislation over the course of this year. The ninth study passed the House in the last Congress. These study proposals have been sponsored or cosponsored by more than 50 of our colleagues, both Democrats and Republicans. The studies range geographically from California to Puerto Rico and from President Truman's birthplace to Lewis and Clark's expedition of discovery.

Mr. Speaker, special resource studies are some of the most common and popular types of legislation that our colleagues ask the Natural Resources Committee to consider. So we are happy to recommend these worthy study proposals to the House.

I urge all of my colleagues to support H.R. 3998.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

While H.R. 3998 contains titles that are a concern to some, it also contains studies that are worthy of special recognition for the effort and diligence that their sponsors put into them. In particular, I would like to thank Representative BOOZMAN and his staff for their hard work on the Butterfield Overland Trail Study Act. Congressman BOOZMAN reached out to all Members whose districts will be a part of this study and made sure that they had no objections. He also ensured that all private property rights would be protected. His actions are exemplary and should be commended.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP).

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. I appreciate the time being yielded.

Mr. Speaker, one of the processes of this particular bill is one that I hope we do not replicate very often because indeed there are nine separate bills

tied together into one package. Each bill has a separate amount of merits to those particular bills. Some of them, like the bill by Mr. SKELTON, the chairman from Missouri, is a very well-written bill. I particularly would like to thank the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) for writing a bill that I think went above and beyond the call of duty in trying to ensure that the rights of citizens who would be in this study area are protected, as well as ensuring that the maximum amount of participation can be given to those people who are living in that particular area.

There are also some elements in the bill as it came out of committee that I found personally egregious. Those have been removed from the bill that is here. I would like to thank the chairman of the committee and the subcommittees respectively as well as Democratic staff for making changes in this particular bill in a way that I find very appealing. I appreciate them for entering into discussions in an effort to find some kind of bipartisan cooperation with this, and I also am very appreciative of the professional manner in which the Democrat staff worked with our staff in coming up with a bill that I think is very positive coming out of here.

With the bill that is now before us, I certainly have no objections to this particular bill, and I wish to express my appreciation for putting this particular piece of legislation in a form that I think is commendable, and we can commend it and represent it and encourage our fellow Members of the House to vote for it.

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN).

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3998, in particular title X of the bill, the Butterfield Overland Trail Study Act. This title directs the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of the Butterfield Overland Trail, which stretches from Missouri to California. Before the railroad and even the famed Pony Express, the Butterfield Trail was the only connection between the eastern United States and the rapidly expanding west coast.

□ 1430

Commissioned by Congress in 1857, John Butterfield established a trail that could be traveled by stagecoach from the Mississippi River to San Francisco in a remarkable 25 days.

While the original purpose of the trail has long been surpassed by modern technology, the trail survives with the potential to be a great link to our Nation's past, attracting tourists with its educational and historic appeal, as well as a tool to educate our children about our country's storied history.

I have worked with the National Resources Committee to ensure that extreme caution is given to protecting

private property rights, and clear language is contained in the bill so that any future action will not compromise private land.

Mr. Speaker, as our country continues to rapidly grow and develop in the spirit of the old American West, it is so important that we remember what brought us to this point. It is our duty to our children and grandchildren that we take the time to mark the paths our ancestors took across our country.

I respectfully ask my colleagues to vote in favor of H.R. 3998. And I want to thank the committee so much, and the committee staff. It has really been a pleasure to work with you guys to help us as we worked forward in ironing out the kinks.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to reclaim my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Guam?

There was no objection.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from South Carolina, the Honorable JOHN SPRATT.

Mr. SPRATT. I thank the gentlelady for the generous grant of time and I rise in support, Mr. Speaker, of the America's Historical and National Legacy Study Act.

This bill authorizes studies into the suitability of 10 sites as candidates for the National Park System. It is the first step towards preserving some of our most important historical sights and some of our most precious national resources, many of which are vulnerable to development unless we act, and act now. One of the 10 sites is located in the heart of my district, the Battle of Camden.

I introduced the Battle of Camden Study Act in the 108th Congress, and I am thankful that Congress is now finally considering it as part of this National Legacy Study Act. This site has been a national historic landmark since 1962, but it does not enjoy the support and protection offered by being an official unit of the National Park System.

The Battle of Camden was fought on August 16, 1780, and was a crushing defeat for American patriot forces. Indeed, some regard it as the high watermark of British supremacy in the Southern colonies. So it's fair to ask, if this battle was such a crushing defeat for the American patriots, why should we commemorate it at all?

Well, to start with, this battle was lost by General Horatio Gates. The hero of Saratoga was a political favorite in the Continental Congress, and after the fall of Charleston, the Congress sent him south to command what remained of our forces. Congress appointed Gates without consulting Washington, who would have sent Nathaniel Greene.

Gates came and drove his ill-provisioned troops into battle even after discovering that Cornwallis had reinforced his ranks the day before with fresh troops from Charleston. The result was a rout, a disaster, and a retreat to Charlotte led by Gates himself.

For its part, the Congress learned from this bitter experience its proper role in assigning general officers, and years later that principle was built into the Constitution. In replacing Gates after the Battle of Camden, Congress deferred to Washington and Washington dispatched Greene to the Carolinas.

With Charleston and then Camden subdued, Cornwallis began a drive north to mop up resistance with Major Ferguson on the west side of the Broad River and General Cornwallis on the east.

The Battle of Camden left new doubts about local militia, and how reliable or effective they could be, other than to harass British troops. But as Cornwallis' forces moved through the upcountry, they learned the Carolina patriot militia could not be taken lightly.

As Ferguson made his way through the foothills of the Blue Ridge, he threatened to apply "fire and steel" to anyone who refused allegiance to the crown. Settlers from over the mountain got the message. More than a thousand mustered at Sycamore Shoals for a fight with Ferguson. On October 7, 1780, they found Ferguson encamped on the top of Kings Mountain; and after settling on tactics, they attacked systematically. In less than an hour, Ferguson was dead, and hundreds of his troops were also dead, wounded or taken prisoner.

Kings Mountain is widely regarded as the turning point of the Revolution in the South, but we cannot fully appreciate its significance unless we understand its context, the Battles of Camden and Charleston.

Three months later, Morgan would meet Tarleton at Hannah's Cowpens, just 15 miles from Kings Mountain. Tarleton's defeat at Cowpens and Cornwallis' pursuit of Morgan into Virginia would eventually lead Cornwallis to Yorktown in total defeat.

The Revolutionary War was a very near thing which could easily have gone either way, and that's why the Battle of Camden is so essential to understanding the Revolutionary War. The Continentals and the patriots may have lost that battle, but they learned from bitter experience and came back to fight and win another day.

I thank the committee, in particular Chairmen RAHALL and GRIJALVA, Ms. BORDALLO, and my good colleague from South Carolina, HENRY BROWN, for including the Battle of Camden in your bill; and I encourage every Member to vote for the adoption of this fine piece of legislation.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, let me take this means to express my support for H.R. 3998, which includes a piece of legislation en-

titled the "Harry S. Truman Birthplace Study Act," which I introduced on July 31, 2007. That particular bill would direct the Interior Secretary to study the feasibility of adding the Harry S. Truman Birthplace State Historic Site in Lamar, MO, to our system of National Parks.

I was honored to introduce this legislation on behalf of the people of Lamar, a community located in Southwestern Missouri that has done much groundwork for the inclusion of the State Historic Site in our Federal system. The bill would further honor the 33rd President of the United States and Missouri's favorite son, President Harry S. Truman.

On May 8, 1884, Harry Truman was born in a downstairs bedroom of a small frame house in Lamar, MO. The Truman birthplace, which the family occupied until Harry was 11 months old, was built between 1880 and 1882. In 1959, the United Auto Workers donated the home to the State of Missouri, after buying it some years earlier to preserve its rich cultural significance. Since its addition to the Missouri State Parks System, much work has been done to maintain the dignity and historical relevance of the residence, and many Americans make their way through the site each year.

When the Mayor of Lamar, Keith Divine, wrote to me earlier this year asking me to introduce legislation to begin the process of including President Truman's birthplace in our National Park System, I was honored to oblige. In my view and in the view of the local community, doing so would add perhaps the most critical piece of Harry Truman's life, the place of his birth, to the current group of national historic sites that honor the legacy of our 33rd President. And, doing so would foster economic development in Lamar and in Barton County.

As a matter of record, let me share with you briefly my personal connection with President Truman and with the legislation creating the original Harry S. Truman National Historic Site in Independence, MO.

I came to personally know President Truman through my father, Ike Skelton, Sr., who developed a friendship with him some 78 years ago at the dedication of the Pioneer Mother Statue—the Madonna of the Trail—located in my hometown of Lexington, MO. At that time, Harry Truman was a county commissioner in neighboring Jackson County and my father was a well-known lawyer and Democrat. Through the years, I developed my own friendship with this genuinely nice person we call the "Man from Independence."

He was a son of rural Missouri whose handshake was firm, whose honesty and personal integrity were never questioned, and whose devotion to his beloved wife, Bess, to his daughter Margaret Truman Daniel, and to his friends was enduring. He led our country through some difficult periods and made courageous, principled decisions during his presidency.

In the past, Congress has honored President Truman by designating sites in Missouri important to his life as part of America's National Park System. In 1982 and 1983, I worked with the late Senator Tom Eagleton and former Senator Jack Danforth to pass legislation designating the home of Harry and Bess Truman in Independence, MO, as the Harry S. Truman National Historic Site. The site, which consisted at that time of President and Mrs. Truman's home at 219 N. Delaware

Street, was willed to the Archivist of the United States when Mrs. Truman passed away in October 1982.

Because the National Park Service, rather than the Archivist, has the Federal responsibility of administering national historic sites, the property and its historic contents became stuck in limbo, with only minimal protection and threatened by possible vandalism, theft, or fire. At that time, there was an urgent need to protect this important property, so I requested the Secretary of the Interior to exercise his authority to designate and administer President Truman's home as a national historic site. The Department refused, and I quickly introduced legislation to establish the site. My bill passed the House on December 13, 1982, but the Senate failed to act on it before the end of the session.

Fortunately, the Interior Secretary came to his senses and signed a secretarial order designating the home as a national historic site. In 1983, however, I wrote legislation to codify the Secretary's directive. In May 1983, Congress unanimously approved and President Ronald Reagan signed into law my bill that created the Harry S. Truman National Historic Site in Independence.

Since that time, Congress has authorized the National Park Service to add other historically significant Truman family sites to the Federal property—in 1989, additional family homes near 219 Delaware Street and in 1993, the Truman Farm Home near Grandview, MO.

So, here we are on December 4, 2007, considering my legislation to direct the Interior Secretary to study whether it is feasible to include another important historic site—President Truman's birthplace—to our National Park System.

As someone who cherishes the life and legacy of Harry Truman, I am hopeful this bill will become law and that the National Park Service's study will proceed quickly and will yield favorable results.

Over the years, Lamar, the State of Missouri, and the University of Missouri Extension have put into place a development plan for the Harry S. Truman Birthplace State Historic Site. If approved, I am confident the Federal study will look favorably upon the community's work and will take into consideration the positive economic impact for the Lamar and Barton County area, which has experienced considerable economic hardship in recent months because a major employer, O'Sullivan Industries, closed its doors.

I urge my colleagues to approve H.R. 3998 today.

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3998, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

VALIDATING CONVEYANCES MADE BY THE UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2246) to validate certain conveyances made by the Union Pacific Railroad Company of lands located in Reno, Nevada, that were originally conveyed by the United States to facilitate construction of transcontinental railroads, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2246

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. RAILROAD LANDS DEFINED.

For the purposes of this Act, the term "railroad lands" means those lands within the City of Reno, Nevada, located within portions of sections 10, 11, and 12 of T.19 N., R. 19 E., and portions of section 7 of T.19 N., R. 20 E., Mount Diablo Meridian, Nevada, that were originally granted to the Union Pacific Railroad under the provisions of the Act of July 1, 1862, commonly known as the Union Pacific Railroad Act.

SEC. 2. RELEASE OF REVERSIONARY INTEREST.

Any reversionary interests of the United States (including interests under the Act of July 1, 1862, commonly known as the Union Pacific Railroad Act) in and to the railroad lands as defined in section one of this Act are hereby released.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) and the gentleman from Washington (Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Guam.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Guam?

There was no objection.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, the Union Pacific Railroad operates a rail line through downtown Reno, Nevada. Like similar corridors across the West, the rail line was created on Federal land in the 19th century to facilitate development of a transcontinental rail system. The grant to the railroad includes a requirement that the land revert back to Federal ownership should it ever be abandoned by the railroad.

The City of Reno has undertaken a massive project to move approximately two miles of the rail line into a concrete trench constructed alongside the existing track to improve safety and traffic flow through downtown. As part

of the project, the railroad apparently conveyed portions of the right-of-way to the city for construction of the trench. It is not clear whether Union Pacific had authority to make such a conveyance given the Federal reversionary interest. H.R. 2246, as amended, would simply release any Federal reversionary interest in the specific parcels involved in the project. So given the City's enormous investment in this project and that the parcels in question will continue to be used for purposes related to the operation of the rail line, clearing title to these parcels is appropriate. So I urge all of our colleagues to support H.R. 2246.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the gentlewoman from Guam has explained the bill very well. I thank her, as well as Chairman GRIJALVA, for working with us to move this legislation out of committee and through the House.

I would like to recognize the sponsor of this legislation, Congressman DEAN HELLER from Nevada, and yield him such time as he may consume.

Mr. HELLER of Nevada. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2246, which will resolve outdated Federal reversionary interests in land important to the City of Reno, Nevada, which I represent.

The reversionary interest concerns a rail line that goes through downtown Reno. The City of Reno and the Union Pacific/Southern Pacific join together to submerge a portion of the track below street level as a result of merger between the two railroads.

As part of the project, known as RETRAC, the railroad agreed to grant the City of Reno title to the land immediately surrounding the right-of-way for the project within the city. This bill assists in the revitalization and economic development in this community.

Title for these lands was originally granted to the railroad in 1866 to facilitate construction of a transcontinental rail system. However, when the United States granted the right-of-way to the railroad, it retained a reversionary interest in the land to ensure that it was, in fact, used to facilitate the building of the railroad. This purpose obviously was satisfied many years ago.

This reversionary interest is an obsolete restriction on the title of the land granted to the City of Reno, and H.R. 2246 instructs the Secretary of the Interior to release the reversionary interest originally created in 1866.

I appreciate the chairman of the committee, and also Chairman GRIJALVA and his staff, for the work they have done on this legislation. I also want to thank Reno Mayor Cashell, who came out to Washington to testify on this piece of legislation, and the City of Reno for their continued support and the efforts by their

citizens. I would encourage all of my colleagues to support this legislation.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I want to thank the gentlewoman from Washington (Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS) for co-managing our bills today from the Resources Committee.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2246, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The title was amended so as to read: "A bill to provide for the release of any reversionary interest of the United States in and to certain lands in Reno, Nevada."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NORTH BAY WATER REUSE PROGRAM ACT OF 2007

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 236) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to create a Bureau of Reclamation partnership with the North Bay Water Reuse Authority and other regional partners to achieve objectives relating to water supply, water quality, and environmental restoration, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 236

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "North Bay Water Reuse Program Act of 2007".

SEC. 2. PROJECT AUTHORIZATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act (Public Law 102-575, title XVI; 43 U.S.C. 390h et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"SEC. 16. NORTH BAY WATER REUSE PROGRAM.

"(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

"(1) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term 'eligible entity' means a member agency of the North Bay Water Reuse Authority of the State located in the North San Pablo Bay watershed in—

"(A) Marin County;

"(B) Napa County;

"(C) Solano County; or

"(D) Sonoma County.

"(2) WATER RECLAMATION AND REUSE PROJECT.—The term 'water reclamation and reuse project' means a project carried out by the Secretary and an eligible entity in the North San Pablo Bay watershed relating to—

"(A) water quality improvement;

"(B) wastewater treatment;

"(C) water reclamation and reuse;

"(D) groundwater recharge and protection;

"(E) surface water augmentation; or

"(F) other related improvements.